

Compstall Urban District

ANNUAL
REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1914 :: :: ::



COMPSTALL URBAN DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1914.

To the Chairman and Members of the Compstall Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in reporting on the Sanitary conditions prevailing in the Urban District of Compstall during the year 1914.

A.—NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

1.—The district is chiefly rural, and lies on the South and South-Easterly portion of the Werneth Hills, in the North-West portion of the County of Chester, being separated from the Glossop Rural District, in the County of Derby, by the river Etherow. It is bounded on the North by the borough of Hyde, on the West and South-West by the Romiley and Bredbury U.D.C., and on the East and South-East by the Glossop Rural District. The urban portion of the district lies at the lower border of the district on the South and South-Easterly side. The sub-soil is a mixture of sand and clay, with underlying rock.

2.—Population of the district at census 1911 was 908.

 ,, ,, ,, 1901 ,, 875.

Increase during decennium 1901-1911 was 33, or 3 per 1,000.

I estimate the population for year 1914 to be 912.

Number of houses inhabited in July, 1914, was 236.

Average number per house was 3·9.

The chief occupations of the inhabitants of the urban portion are weaving and spinning. The inhabitants of the rural portion are chiefly farmers and labourers.

There is a fair amount of outdoor relief to the old inhabitants.

There are no cases, so far as I can gather, at present in the Union, nor are there any cases receiving gratuitous medical relief.

The social conditions of the inhabitants are clean and healthy, with one or two exceptions.

The mills have been working full time up to the commencement of the war. During the war they are only running half-time. There is, however, not much acute distress. Local relief is being given to one or two cases.

There are no reports of overcrowding.

B.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply is abundant, constant, and of good drinking qualities.

It is obtained from springs on the upland, and conveyed to two reservoirs, from whence it is carried by mains to the houses.

The reservoirs are cleaned out and limed every year, and the mains are flushed periodically.

Provision has been made to divert the water before it reaches the reservoirs in times of flood.

The water is free from lead, and has no plumbo-solvent action.

There is very little possibility of contamination. Some of the houses in the urban portion and the houses in the rural portion are supplied from springs and wells. These are well protected, and free from contamination. The question of erection of tents on the upland ought to receive your attention owing to the liability of wells and springs becoming contaminated by persons using the said tents.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The river Etherow, which separates the district from the Glossop Rural District is contaminated with the refuse from works higher up the river, and occasionally is malodorous, but there has been no complaint owing to the large amount of rainfall.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The sewage consists of slopwater, and is conveyed by the sewers to a reserve, which collects river and spring water for the turbine at the mills, thence it flows into the river.

The outlets in the reserve are constantly cleaned, and the effluvia arising from the reserve has been practically imperceptible.

Your Council are considering the question of a sewerage scheme for the urban portion of the district.

The closet accommodation is sufficient, being one to each house.

The ashpits are not emptied regularly, and complaints have been received. The owners of the property remove the ashpit refuse. I advise the Council to arrange for more regular and frequent emptying and cleansing.

The house refuse is generally burned by the inhabitants.

The tip is a good distance away from any dwelling, and in no way causes a nuisance.

The house drains are trapped and ventilated.

A record of inspections during the year will be found in the Inspector's Report.

No. of privies:

No. of closets:

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

This has been regularly carried out by the Inspector, who has reported that he has made during the year 145 inspections; 6 informal notices served; no prosecutions; no statutory notices served.

I have also visited and inspected the urban portion of the district regularly.

I have made special visits and inspections of houses in the rural portion where nuisances or cases of fever have been reported.

There are no lodging-houses, slaughter-houses or offensive trades in the district.

SCHOOLS.

The schools have been inspected, and found clean and healthy.

There is sufficient closet accommodation. The play-yard is asphalted, and the supply of water is good and pure.

The School Medical Officer has not reported any infectious case this year.

There was a slight epidemic of scarlet fever during the year. This will be dealt with in the report on infectious diseases.

FOOD.

(A)—Milk Supply:—

The milk supplied by the farmers residing in and out of the district is good and wholesome. No prosecutions reported. The cans and utensils are kept clean.

The farms in the district have been inspected and found free from any sanitary defects.

Cowsheds are limewashed twice a year.

Cowshed rules have been distributed amongst the farmers.

OTHER FOODS.

There were no prosecutions under Sale of Food and Drugs Act. The premises were clean and sanitary on inspection. Food wholesome. No diseased meat was found.

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION.

The houses are substantially built, and of sufficient accommodation. Backyards are spacious, and in most cases kept clean and sanitary. Open spaces are numerous, and the blocks of houses are well apart and not congested. Number of houses erected during the year, 1.

Under section 17 of Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1909:—

- A. No. of houses inspected during the year 1914, 12.
- B. No. of dwelling-houses found unfit for habitation, none.
- C. No. of representations made to local authority, none.

- d. No. of closing orders made, none.
- e. No. of dwelling-houses the defects in which were remedied without the making of closing orders, none.
- f. The number of dwelling-houses which, after the making of closing orders, were put into a fit state for human habitation, none.
- g. The general character of defects found, none.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION OF THE DISTRICT.

1.—The Inspector and I have made regular periodical visits to houses and farms in urban and rural portions. Special visits have been made in all infectious cases, and the houses have been disinfected by the Inspector or his assistant.

2.—The Council have an arrangement with the Hyde Corporation by which cases requiring isolation can be removed, and treated at the Hyde Isolation Hospital. The Council retain one bed, and can send other cases if necessary. This is sufficient for the district. Two cases of scarlet fever, one of diphtheria, and one of typhoid were isolated at the Hospital during the year.

There were no chemical or bacteriological examinations during the year. The Council have made arrangements with the Bacteriological Laboratory, Manchester, so that specimens may be sent for examination.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER ACUTE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

A slight epidemic of Scarlet Fever broke out in October, 12 cases being reported. In January a case was reported on Werneth Low, which is the highest part of the district, and adjacent to the Hyde Borough.

In May and June two cases occurred at a farm on Werneth Low.

These three cases attended school in the borough of Hyde, where there was an epidemic of Scarlet Fever, and there was little doubt that the children contracted the disease from school. The two at the farm were isolated at Hyde Hospital, and strict orders given with regard to milk.

The outbreak in October was mild, and all cases were isolated at home, and all the children anointed with eucalyptus oil. The affected children were isolated for six weeks. There were no return cases.

One case was reported on Oct. 1st, age 8.

Two cases were reported on Oct. 3, aged 4 and $3\frac{1}{2}$.

One case was reported on Oct. 4, age 12.

Two cases were reported on Oct. 6, age 25 and 11.

One case was reported on Oct. 8, age 12.

Two cases were reported on Oct. 12, age 6 and 4.

One case was reported on Oct. 17, age 2.

One case was reported on Oct. 22, age 6.

One case was reported on Oct. 30, age 4.

One case was reported on Dec. 8, age 18.

There were no deaths from Scarlet Fever. One case of Typhoid was reported on September 14th, and isolated the same day at Hyde Hospital. No cause could be found.

One case of Diphtheria was reported on July 30, and sent to Hospital the same day. This case died suddenly, after apparent improvement, on August 8, 1914. I visited and inspected premises, but could find no defects in drains.

One case of Erysipelas was reported on December 1st. This was isolated at home.

There was no case of Tuberculosis reported.

A report on the outbreak of Scarlet Fever was sent to the Medical Officer of Health for the County on October 9, 1914.

It was not deemed advisable to close the schools.

There were two cases of Measles reported.

OTHER DISEASES.

The district has been free from Influenza and other Infectious Diseases. There is no prevalence of any particular disease.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The mothers are certainly better educated as regards the care of infants, and feed them more rationally. Improvements could be made in certain cases, and the District Nurse is very attentive to any case notified. Circulars have been distributed by her, and parents instructed both by the doctors and nurse. There have been no cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

I have inspected books, bag, appliances, and house of midwife residing in the district four times this year, and found everything satisfactory.

The Notification of Births Act has not been adopted.

There was one death of infants under one year. This was due to malformation of brain.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Births	2	8	10
Deaths	6	3	9

The death of one resident occurred at an institution outside the district.

Birth-rate (calculated upon the number of births per 1,000 registered births) is 9.

Death-rate, per 1,000 registered deaths, is 9.8.

The Birth-rate and death-rate are both lower than last year's, which were respectively 20 and 14.

There was one death of infant under one year, making a death-rate of 100 per 1,000 registered births.

The following table gives the ages at which the deaths occurred :

Under 1 year	1
1 and under 2	1
2 ,,, 5	Nil.
5 ,,, 15	Nil.
15 ,,, 25	Nil.
25 ,,, 45	2
45 ,,, 65	1
65 and upwards	4

The deaths from classified diseases were :—

Diphtheria	1
Bronchitis	1
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	2
Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy	1
Malformation	1
Other Defined Diseases	3

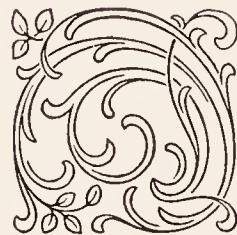
I append the report of the Sanitary Inspector, along with tabulated statements of inspections and vital statistics required by the Local Government Board and the County Council.

I remain,

Yours obediently,

CHAS. H. HIBBERT,

Medical Officer of Health.



Annual Report of the Surveyor and Inspector of Nuisances for the Year 1914.

ROADS.

Low Top Quarry has been rented up to the 31st of March this year, and Low Top Hill has been metalled and the hill is in a very good condition. The remaining parts of the roads have been kept in the usual condition. I have sold 14 Loads of Stone to private owners.

PLANS.

The following plans have been passed by the Council:—5 new Bungalows behind “Tobit Farm” for Mr. Green, of Stockport, and 7 Cabins on various farms; the drains of Mr. Smith’s and Mr. Green’s houses have been passed.

SANITARY.

No. 1, PRIVIES.—The privies have been kept in fair order, and all complaints have been attended to. The majority of houses have Privy-Ashpits; frequent inspections have been made en bloc, and are kept clean.

No. 2.—The number of premises visited during the year is 145, and number of defects discovered 6; informal notices served, all of which have been abated. No prosecution or statutory notices served.

No. 3, HOUSING REGULATIONS.—Twelve houses have been inspected for the purpose of Section 17 of the Act of 1909, and were all found to conform with the Clauses of the Act as to light, circulation of air, and condition of house and yard.

A.—No Dwelling-houses were found in a dangerous state or unfit for human habitation.

B.—None.

C.—No closing orders made.

D.—None.

E.—None.

F.—None.

The majority of houses are tenanted by mill hands, and are well looked after by the owners. The Closets and Ashpits are emptied frequently, and any small nuisance reported, and immediately rectified. The Farms are in a good state, kept clean, and the Shippsons whitewashed.

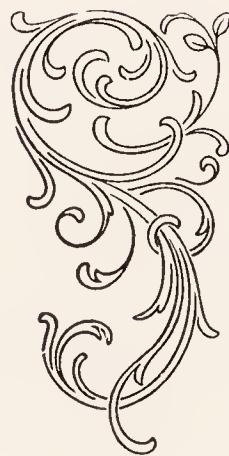
The Mill has been inspected frequently, and found in good order. There have been 16 houses stoved—15 Scarlet Fever and 1 Diphtheria.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Water Supply has been good, and the reservoirs kept clean.

T. MORGAN BEVAN,

Surveyor and Inspector.



Tabular Statement of Inspector of Nuisances for the Year ended December 31st, 1914.

Number and Nature of Inspections Made.	No. of Notices served		Result of Service of Notices				
	No.	Statutory	Informal	Notices complied with	Remaining in hand	Prosecutions instituted	Prosecutions pending
Dwelling Houses (General Inspections)
Cellar Dwellings	1	...	...	...
Back-to-Back Houses	6	...	...	...
Tents, Vans, Sheds, &c.	15	...	...	...
Privy-Middens, Earth or Pail Closets	40	...	6	...
Cesspools	9	...	...	...
Other Places where Food is Produced or Sold	15	...	...	...
Piggeries	1	...	...	...
Cowsheds	20	...	...	...
Factories	2	...	...	...
Infectious Disease Inquiries and Revisits...	24	...	...	...
 Totals	145	...	6	...
					

N.B.—As the majority of Houses in the District have Privies in every street, and all emptied by one firm, frequent visits are made, and inspections made en bloc.

T. MORGAN BEVAN, Inspector.

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Tabular Summary of Sanitary Work during 1914.

Name of District, Compstall Urban.

I. ADOPTIVE ACTS.

Which of the undernamed Acts is now in force in your district?

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1. Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890..... | No. |
| 2. Notification of Births Act | No. |
| 3. Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, Part III. | No. |
| 4. Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907 | No. |
| (State Sections in force...None.) | |
| 5 Other Adoptive Acts | None. |

II. BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

State subject matter of any new Bye-Laws or Regulations brought into force during 1914. A copy of any new Bye-Laws or Regulations would be acceptableNone.

III. MILK SUPPLY.

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 1. Number of Registered Premises at close of 1914 : — | Number inspected
during 1914. |
| (a) Dairies | None. |
| (b) Cowsheds | 20 |
| (c) Milkshops | None. |
| 2. Number of Notices served for non-compliance with Regula-
tions | None. |
| 3. Number of Legal Actions taken for non-compliance with
Notices, &c. | None. |

IV. FOOD INSPECTION.

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1. Is this systematically carried out in your District?..... | Yes. |
| 2. Number of Slaughter-houses in your District (a) Public..... | None. |
| | (b) Private.....None. |
| 3. Number of inspections made of Slaughter-houses during 1914 : | |
| | (a) Public.....None. |
| | (b) Private.....None. |
| 4. Are systematic inspections made of premises other than Slaughter-
houses where food is produced or sold? If so, please state generally
nature of premises so inspected.....Fish Shops and Chip shops and
General Grocers. | |

V. WATER SUPPLY.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. Have any extensions been carried out during 1914? If so, please
append brief note | None. |
| 2. Number of Samples analysed during 1914—Chemically | None. |
| | Bacteriologically...None. |
| 3 Are any, and if so what, parts of your district still without a
proper supply of water? | None. |

VI. POLLUTION OF RIVERS AND STREAMS.

In your opinion, are any Rivers or Streams in your District polluted, or likely to be polluted at times, by any of the following?

Source of Pollution.	River or Stream Concerned.
(a) Public Sewage Disposal Works...	(a)
(b) Private Sewage Disposal works...	(b)
(c) Solid matter (accumulations of cinders, refuse, sludge, &c.)...	(c) Refuse from sinks in urban portion.
(d) House Drainage	(d) None.
(e) Manufacturing waste or effluents...	(e) None.

VII. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

1. Specify any new works of sewerage carried out during 1914...None.
2. **Are any, and if so what, parts of your district still without a proper system of sewers?**.....Both Urban and Rural.
3. By what system is sewage disposed of?...Slop water from sinks empties into Reserve which collects River and Spring Water for Turbines at Mill. Thence it flows into the River.
4. Have there been any complaints to your knowledge during 1914 as to the disposal works?.....None.
5. Have any alterations or extensions taken place to your knowledge in the disposal works during 1914?.....None.

VIII. SCAVENGING.

1. By whom is this carried out?...Calico Printers' Association and Private Owners.
2. Approximate number of the following in your district :—

		How frequently Scavenged ?
(a) Midden Privies	70	.....Six times a year.
(b) Dry Ashpits	70	.....Six times a year.
(c) Pail Closets	62	.....Every fortnight.
(d) Dustbins	7	.....Every fortnight.
(e) Cesspools	9	.....
3. **Is the present system in your opinion inadequate in any respect?**Yes.

IX. HOUSING.

1. Number of new houses built during 1914.....One.
2. Number of dwelling-houses inspected **under s. 17 Act of 1909**.....12.
3. Number of such houses considered unfit for habitation.....None.
4. Number of representations made to Local Authority.....None.
5. Number of closing orders made by Local Authority.....None.
6. Number of houses where defects remedied without closing orders being made
7. Number of houses where defects remedied after closing orders made
8. Estimated or ascertained number of houses **within limits of rent in s. 14 of Act of 1909**.....
9. Number of such houses in respect of which notice was served during 1914

10. Number of such houses closed after noticeNone.
11. Number of such houses where Local Authority has executed necessary repairs, &c.None.
12. Approximate number of back to back houses in district.....15.
13. Approximate number of cellar dwellings in district.....One.

X. TOWN PLANNING.

Has any scheme of Town Planning been put forward for your District or any part thereof? If so, please make brief note of

- (a) Part of District covered by Scheme....No Scheme been put forward.
- (b) Area
- (c) Population
- (d) How far has the Scheme progressed at date of making this Report?

XI. PREVENTION OF CONSUMPTION.

Kindly state action taken during 1914 under following heads :—

1. Sanitary Inspection of patients' housesNone.
2. Disinfection of dittoNone.
3. Distribution of Circulars containing adviceYes.
4. Action to prevent spittingNotices.
5. Supply of disinfectantFree, but none supplied.
6. Supply of sputum flasks, paper handkerchiefs, &c.None.
7. Visitation by Nurses or Health Visitors.....None.

(Signed) CHAS. H. HIBBERT.

January 31st, 1915.

TABLE I.
Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1914 and previous years.
Name of District.—COMPSTALL.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.	
		Un-corrected No.	Nett.	No.	Rate.	No.	Rate.	No.	Under 1 year of age.
									At all Ages.
1909	890	22	22	11	12·3	...	2	1	14·6
1910	890	14	14	14	15·7	...	4	285	14·5·7
1911	903	22	22	5	5·5	...	2	...	7·7
1912	912	19	19	21	14	...	1	52·7	14·15
1913	912	19	19	21	13	...	4	157	13·14
1914	912	10	10	9	8	8·6	1	100	9·8

Area of District in Acres (land and inland water).....903

Total population at all Ages.....908
Total families or separate occupiers .. 223
At Census, 1911.

TABLE II.
Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1914.
 Name of District—COMPSTALL.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.						TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY. (e.g. Parish or Ward) of the District.	TOTAL CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL		
	AT AGES—YEARS.									
	At all Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5 years.	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45				
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas...	1	...	...	...	1	1		
Scarlet Fever	16	...	5	9	1	16		
Enteric Fever	1	...	...	1	...	1		
Measles	2	...	2	...	...	2		
Totals	21	6	11	1	21		

Hyde Infectious Hospital.

TABLE III.
Causes of, and Ages at, Death, during the Year 1914.
Name of District.—COMPSTALL.

Causes of Death	Net Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.							
	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65
All Causes—Certified
,, Uncertified
Diphtheria and Croup	1	...	...	...
Bronchitis	1	...	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	2	...	...	...	1
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	1	...	...	1	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	1	1	...	...	...
Other Defined Diseases	3	...	...	1	2
Totals	9	1	1	2	1
						...	2	4

TABLE IV.
Name of District—COMPSTALL.
INFANT MORTALITY.

1914. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

Causes of Death.	Under 1 week	Total under 3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	1-2 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total death under 1 year.
All causes— Certified	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough...
Bronchitis
Gastritis...
Congenital Malformations	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Premature birth
Atrophy, Debility & Marasmus
Totals	1

Nett Births in the year { legitimate ... 10 illegitimate ... 0
Nett Deaths in the year { legitimate infants ... 1 illegitimate infants... 0